Diversity Newsletter

Topics for Teachers

BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth
Ministry of Education

Summer 2010 Volume 3

Welcome to the summer 2010 edition of **Diversity Newsletter:** *Topics for Teachers.*

Resources is the theme of this edition. Here we provide convenient links to information that can support teachers in their work with diverse learners.

To help you navigate the complex world of teaching in today's diverse classrooms, consider exploring some of these free resources, and keep this issue handy as you plan for your students next year.

If you have any resource links we could use in a forthcoming newsletter, please let us know at: EDUC.DiversityandEquity@gov.bc.ca

Susan Kennedy
Executive Director
Diversity and Equity and Early Learning

Tools for Your Toolkit and Where to Find Them

Today's educators face the challenge of planning and implementing effective education programs that meet the diverse needs of all their students.

Teachers network and trade ideas with colleagues to find new ideas about teaching diverse learners. They read, take courses, and participate in in-service and joint planning.

An abundance of useful materials are also available on the Internet that have been developed for teachers and by teachers and other service providers who are supporting students with diverse needs and their families, much of it right here in our province.

This issue of the Diversity Newsletter focuses on some of the made-in-BC resources that can help teachers looking for information and ideas. Helpful suggestions could be just a click away.

Resource Index:

Teaching Respect for Diversity	2
Roles and Responsibilities in Supporting Diversity	2
Planning for Diversity in the Classroom	2
Educator Training in Supporting Diversity	3
ESL and Immigration	3
Aboriginal Education	3
Individual Education Plans	4
Marks and Grades for Students with Special Needs	4
Adaptations and Modifications	4
Adjudication	4
Technology to Support Diversity	5
Transition	6
Autism Spectrum Disorder	6
Physical Disabilities and Chronic Health	7
Visual Impairments	7
Deaf and Hard of Hearing	8
Deafblind Learners	8
Social/Emotional Needs	9
Intellectual Disabilities	9
Gifted Learners	9
Severe/Profound Multiple Physical / Dependent Handicaps	10
Behavior Challenges	10
Learning Disabilities	11
Other	11

Teaching Respect for Diversity

The Ministry of Education's *Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools* site has links to helpful resources, many of which can be printed directly from the website at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/
Topics include: safe schools, codes of conduct, child welfare concerns, harassment and intimidation, suspension, internet safety, cyber bullying, social responsibility, problem sexual behaviour, learning and behavioural differences, youth against violence and support for transgendered, gay, lesbian, bisexual and questioning youth.

Making Space is designed to help K-12 teachers in virtually every subject area find ways to promote awareness and understanding of the diversity that exists within our society, and support for the achievement of social justice for all people and groups.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/program_delivery/hce.htm

Roles and Responsibilities in Supporting Diversity

Diversity in BC: A Framework provides information to help districts make sure that differences among learners do not negatively impact their participation in school, their mastery of learning outcomes, or their ability to become contributing members of society.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/diversity/diversity_framework.pdf

Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines provides a single point of reference regarding legislation, ministry policy and guidelines to assist school boards in providing programs and services for students with special needs. The manual also contains procedural information to assist in accessing programs and services provided at the provincial level. It is intended for principals, school-based teams and special educational professionals, but may also prove of interest to classroom teachers, other professionals within education, social service or health care communities, to parents and to members of the public at large. *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines*

Planning for Diversity in the Classroom

The British Columbia Teacher's Federation website provides a number of ideas and resources to assist teachers in differentiating instruction. See the BCTF Teaching to Diversity site

Universal Design for Learning is an approach to learning in which curriculum designers consider the scope of student abilities and learning styles, taking into account varying abilities to see, hear, speak, move, read, write, comprehend English, attend, organize, engage, and remember. Visit this link for a repository of information on UDL
http://www.setbc.org/setbc/curriculum/udl_main.html

Educator Training in Supporting Diversity

The *BC CASE Learning Series* developed in partnership with the Ministry of Education offers Online Learning Modules and Cornerstone Workshops to support the professional learning of educators new to special education. The modules provide an introductory overview of core special education topics and skills required to support students with special learning needs, while Cornerstone Workshops provide more in depth training. www.bc-case.org/learning.shtml

The *Education and Skill Development for EAs* training program's objective is to provide consistent quality learning options for Education Assistants across the province with a view to enhancing skills and building capacity of Education Assistants. For more information please email EAeducation@sseac.ca

"If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse human gift will find a fitting place."
Margaret Mead

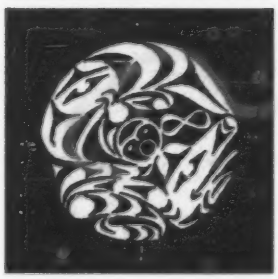
ESL and Immigration

English as a Second Language Learners: A Guide for Classroom Teachers is designed for K-12 classroom teachers who have had limited experience working with ESL students. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/esl/policy/classroom.pdf

English as a Second Language Learners: A Guide for ESL Specialists is intended to assist ESL specialist teachers, including district consultants, school-based teachers, or itinerant teachers who work with students in several different schools.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/esl/policy/special.pdf

Students from Refugee Backgrounds: A Guide for Teachers and Schools provides background information about those with refugee experiences, supports all school staff in their work with children and youth from refugee backgrounds, and offers strategies for teachers working with these children and youth.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/esl/refugees_teachers_guide.pdf

Aboriginal Education



Shared Learnings is a tool for integrating Aboriginal content into all subject areas from K-10 http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/abed/shared.pdf

Novel study packages using books by Aboriginal authors or containing Aboriginal themes
http://www.sd70.bc.ca/_Programs/Ab_Ed/AbEdCurrDevelp.htm

Individual Education Plans

BCCASE Learning Series Module 4: Program Development: IEPs for Students in Low Incidence Categories. The module reviews the components of the IEP process, develops IEP goals and objectives related to a student's designation and identified strengths/needs, and chooses strategies and methods of measurement to determine student progress.
http://www.bc-case.org/learning.shtml

IEP Planning for Students with Special Needs is an updated version of the 1996 Ministry of Education resource guide Individual Education Planning for Students with Special Needs. It provides information and strategies that align with professional practice and current legislation. The guide is designed for teachers involved in developing and implementing Individual Education Plans (IEPs).
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/iepssn.htm

Section C of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information about IEP planning for students.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Marks and Grades for Students with Special Needs

A Guide to Adaptations and Modifications, provides information on marks and grades for students with special needs.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/adaptations_and_modifications_guide.pdf

Reporting Student Progress: Policy and Practice provides teachers and administrators with policy guidelines and suggested practices for reporting student progress in primary, middle and graduation years.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/classroom_assessment/09_report_student_prog.pdf

Adaptations and Modifications

A Guide to Adaptations and Modifications provides clarification about providing adaptations and modifications to students with special needs.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/adaptations_and_modifications_guide.pdf

For staff professional development about adaptations and modifications or providing marks and grades for students with special needs, contact your district administrator of special education and ask for access to presentation materials available on the Just-in-CASE wiki.

Adjudication

Handbook of Procedures for the Graduation Program 2009-2010 outlines procedures for sharing student data between schools and the Ministry of Education, and answers questions pertaining to provincial examinations.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/handbook/0910_Handbook.pdf

Learning Tools for All showcases the many high quality digital learning tools are already in our schools, or are readily available often free, to learners everywhere. The purpose of this wiki is to increase awareness of some of these powerful options.
http://learningtools4all.pbworks.com/

Section H3 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides information about adjudication.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Technology to Support Diversity

SET Special Education Technology British Columbia

SET-BC is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program established to assist school districts in educating students whose access to the curriculum is restricted primarily due to the following disabilities: physical disabilities or chronic health impairments, visual impairments, dependent handicaps, deafblindness, autism spectrum disorders, moderate to profound intellectual disabilities. SETBC lends assistive technologies (reading, writing, and communication tools) where required to ensure students' access to educational programs, and assists school districts in providing the necessary training for students and educators in the use of these technologies. SETBC includes an extensive list of teacher training resources. www.setbc.org

The *Accessible Resource Centre – British Columbia* is a BC Ministry of Education funded response to the increasing demand for digital or alternate format alternatives to print in BC classrooms. ARC-BC provides BC students with perceptual disabilities and the educators supporting them with high quality digital alternate format materials based on the BC K-12 curriculum. http://www.arc-bc.org/help/general_info.aspx

The Provincial Software Acquisition Plan (PSAP) was created to give British Columbia school districts the opportunity to join the SET-BC provincial site licenses for software titles designed. As part of the SET-BC provincial software site licenses, BC school districts are able to acquire software at preferential prices to help students with special needs improve their literacy, numeracy, and communication skills.
http://www.setbc.org/psap/default.asp

Learning Tools for All showcases the many high quality digital learning tools are already in our schools, or are readily available often free, to learners everywhere. The purpose of this wiki is to increase awareness of some of these powerful options. These tools have the potential to benefit all learners. http://learningtools4all.pbworks.com/

Transition Planning

Career/Life Transitions for Students with Diverse Needs: A Resource Guide for Schools (2001) assists educators in working with students with diverse needs such as those with special needs, or students who are at risk of dropping out of school.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/moe_clt_resource_rb0144.pdf

Transition Planning for Youth with Special Needs: A Community Support Guide (2005) provides community partners, such as school personnel, social workers, and community members, with useful information and practical tips for supporting successful transition planning for youth with special needs.
http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/pdf/support_guide.pdf

Your Future Now was designed as a companion to Transition Planning for Youth with Special Needs: A Community Support Guide (MCFD, 2005).
http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/pdf/your_future_now.pdf

Section H14 of Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines provides information about transition for students with special needs.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Autism Spectrum Disorder

Provincial Outreach Program for Autism and Related Disorders (POPARD) is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program which provides consultation, training and support services to all public and independent schools across the province of British Columbia in order to increase the capacity of school district staff to support students with autism spectrum disorder. The POPARD site includes an extensive list of teacher training resources.
http://www.autismoutreach.ca/elearning/individual-education-plans-iep

Teaching Students with Autism: A Resource Guide for Schools describes key ideas and teaching methods used with students with ASD. This document provides resources and references regarding autism research and instructional techniques.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/autism.pdf

Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder planning tool is designed to assist school based teams in identifying strengths, needs and programming elements for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/asd_instr_supp_plan_tool.pdf

Section E11 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as having ASD.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Physical Disabilities and Chronic Health Impairments

Provincial Outreach Program for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

The *Provincial Outreach Program Fetal Alcohol Syndrome* is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program which provides services through a website so that teachers, parents, students and others increase their understanding of FASD. Their website shares current research, ideas, strategies, training and resources in order to build capacity in school districts for students with FASD and their teachers. http://www.fasdoutreach.ca

POPFASD ELearning modules help teachers understand how to support students with FASD. http://www.fasdoutreach.ca/elearning/modules-guide/modules-guide/

Teaching Students with FASD introduces many strategies which may be appropriate for use with students with or without FASD. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/fas/

Students with Physical Disabilities/Chronic Health Impairments planning tool is designed to assist school based teams in identifying strengths, needs and programming elements for students with FASD. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/physical_disabilties_chronic_health.pdf

Teaching Students with Acquired Brain Injury provides information about characteristics of and planning for students with ABI including managing challenging behaviour, and planning for transition. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/moe_abi_resource_rb0116.pdf

Section E8 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as having a physical disability of chronic health condition. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Visual Impairments

PRCVI
Provincial Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired

The *Provincial Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired* (PRCVI) is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program established to assist school districts in educating students whose access to learning is restricted due to a visual impairment or blindness. PRCVI provides alternate formats including Braille, tactile graphics, digital text and large print of BC recommended learning resources. Specialized and adapted learning materials are also available. The PRCVI site includes an extensive list of teacher training resources.

In addition PRCVI provides professional development and consultation support to BC vision teachers and other school personnel working with students with visual impairments. www.prcvi.org

Students with Visual Impairments has been developed to provide you with basic information to ensure the student's successful integration into your classroom. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/visimpair

Section E9 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as having a visual impairment. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Provincial Outreach Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program established to assist Deaf/deaf and hard of hearing students, teachers, parents, and other paraprofessionals working with D/HH students throughout the Province of British Columbia. www.deafoutreachbc.ca

The Provincial Resource Program – Auditory Outreach is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program which, in collaboration with provincial centres, local audiologists and other service providers, assists public and independent schools throughout the province address the needs of students with hearing difficulties including those with cochlear implants. www.auditoryoutreach.ca

Hard of Hearing and Deaf Students: A Resource Guide to Support Classroom Teachers has been developed to provide you with basic information to ensure the student's success in your classroom. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/hearimpair/intro.htm

Section E10 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as being deaf and hard of hearing. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Deafblind Learners

The *Provincial Outreach Program for Students with Deafblindness* is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program established to meet the needs of School Districts throughout the province of British Columbia who are supporting one or more students with deafblindness. www.sd38.bc.ca/BCDeafblindOUtreach

Section E7 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as being deafblind. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Social/Emotional Needs

FRIENDS for Life is an evidence-based, resiliency and anxiety prevention program.

FRIENDS for Life:
- is a recommended learning resource in the grade 4, 5 and 7 Health and Career Education K-7 curriculum – Grade Collection list

-student workbooks, leader manuals, 1-day training, and additional program resources will continue to be provided to schools free of charge

-*FRIENDS CHILD* program is available to grade 4 & 5 students (also available in french)

- *FRIENDS YOUTH* program is available to grade 7 students

-*FRIENDS* has recently embarked on a pilot of an early years version with kindergarten and grade 1 students.

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/mental_health/friends.htm

Teaching Students with Mental Health Disorders: Resources for Teachers: Volume 1 - Eating Disorders is intended to support the classroom teacher who is teaching a student with an eating disorder by providing insight into this complicated health and mental health condition.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/edi/welcome.htm

Teaching Students with Mental Health Disorders: Resources for Teachers can assist teachers in creating school and classroom environments that are sensitive to the needs of students with depression. Depression can be complicated and very serious. Only a fully trained health professional should attempt to counsel someone suffering from depression.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/depression_resource.pdf

Intellectual Disabilities

Students with Intellectual Disabilities: A resource Guide for Teachers includes information about the nature of intellectual disabilities, preparing to teach students and sources of support, involvement in the transitions and changes that will occur from K to 12 and beyond, tips for teachers covering a wide range of topics, case studies, and resources and references.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/sid/6.htm

Section E2 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as a student with an intellectual disability.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Gifted Learners

Gifted Education - A Resource Guide for Teachers will assist in developing and maintaining programs for exceptionally talented and gifted students.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/gifted/programming.htm

Section E4 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides information for students identified as being gifted.
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Severe/Profound Multiple Physical Handicaps/Physically Dependent

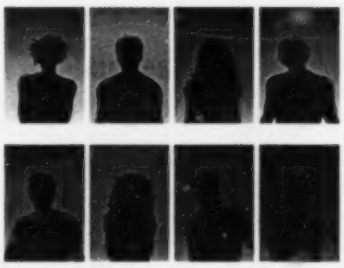
Provincial Integration Support Program is Funded by the B.C. Ministry of Education and hosted by B.C. School District #61 (Victoria). This website is designed to assist school teams and families in developing meaningful and functional programs for B.C. students with severe/profound cognitive and multiple physical disabilities within inclusive schools. www.pisp.ca

Diverse Learning Needs, Volume 1 (a discussion of the needs of students with Asthma, Epilepsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Spina Bifida, Down Syndrome, Tourette Syndrome and other topics). http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/awareness

Diverse Learning Needs, Volume 2 (a discussion of the needs of students with AIDS, Cancer, Eating Disorders and other topics).
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/awareness/awareness_v2.pdf

Section E6 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides information for students identified as being Severely/Profound Multiple Physical Handicaps/Physically Dependent.
.http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Behavior Challenges



Teaching Students with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder is intended to assist teachers in planning and providing supports for students displaying the characteristics associated with AD/HD. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/adhd

Teaching Students with Learning and Behaviour Differences is designed to support teachers as they strive to help students with learning and behavioural difficulties succeed in the classroom. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/landbdif

Students with Behaviour/Mental Illness Planning Tool provides a framework for collecting functional behaviour information for purposes of meaningful discussion and planning support for the student based on his or her needs.
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/behaviour_intervention.pdf

Section E5 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as a student with behaviour needs or mental illness. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Learning Disabilities

Teaching Students with Learning and Behavioural Differences is designed to support teachers as they strive to help students with learning and behavioural difficulties succeed in the classroom.. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/landbdif

Students with Learning Disabilities Planning Tool provides a framework for collecting functional behaviour information for purposes of meaningful discussion and planning support for the student based on his or her needs. www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/ld_instructional_support_tool.pdf

Section E3 of *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* provides such information for students identified as a student with a learning disability. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/ppandg.htm

Other

Implementation of Revised Grade 10 -12 Mathematics. Starting in July 2010, options for mathematics in grades 10-12 will be changing. Apprenticeship and Workplace Mathematics has been designed to provide students with the background material identified for continuation into trades based programs or for direct entry into the workforce. Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-calculus Mathematics have been designed for those students going on to college and university in other programs. For details concerning the new curriculum please see the website for archived Elluminate sessions and other background information: http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/program_delivery/math1012.htm